Listing of Claims

1.   (Previously Presented) A method for obtaining a geographic location of an Internet user that accesses an external network from a private network through a proxy server, comprising:

receiving by an external server on the external network a request for information from an Internet user through the proxy server;

determining by the external server that the request for information is through the proxy server;

redirecting by the external server the request for information to an internal server of the private network, the internal server determining the geographic location of the Internet user;

receiving by the external server the geographic location from the internal server within the private network; and

using the geographic location of the Internet user in handling the request for information from the Internet user.

2.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the external network is Internet.

3.   (Previously Presented) A method for determining a geographic location of an Internet user that accesses an external network from a private network through a proxy server, comprising:

receiving a request for the geographic location of the Internet user within the private network, the request originating from the external network outside of the private network;

detecting that the request for the geographic location of the Internet user was redirected from the external network;

determining the geographic location of the Internet user; and

sending the geographic location to the external network.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein receiving the request for the geographic location originating from the external network comprises receiving the request from a machine associated with the Internet user.

5.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein determining the geographic location comprises determining the geographic location based on an internal address associated with the Internet user and a geographic location/internal IP address mapping table contained within the private network.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein determining the geographic location comprises:

determining an internal address of the Internet user; and

accessing a geographic location/internal IP address mapping table contained within the private network.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 3, wherein sending the geographic location to the external network comprises:

sending the geographic location to an external server on the external network; and

redirecting a machine associated with the Internet user to the external server.

8.   (Previously Presented) A method for obtaining a geographic location of an Internet user that accesses an external network from a private network through a proxy server, comprising:

receiving, by an internal server on the private network, a request for the geographic location of the Internet user from an external server on the external network;

determining, by the internal server, the geographic location of the Internet user located inside the private network; and

sending the geographic location of the Internet user to the external server.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 8, wherein the external network is Internet.

10.   (Previously Presented) A method for resolving a domain name inquiry to assist in gathering geographic location of an Internet user, comprising:

receiving the domain name inquiry, the domain name inquiry being issued by the Internet user;

determining if the inquiry originated from within a private network;

resolving the inquiry by returning a first IP address if the inquiry did not originate from within the private network, the first IP address being associated with an external server located outside of the private network; and

resolving the inquiry by returning a second IP address if the inquiry did originate from within the private network, the second IP address being associated with an internal server located inside the private network;

wherein the internal server and the external server are for determining the geographic location of the Internet user and for making this geographic location information available.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 10, wherein receiving the inquiry on the domain name comprises receiving the inquiry at a domain name server.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the resolving by returning the first IP address and the resolving by returning the second IP address are performed by a domain name server.